

**ROGER WILLIAMS**  
25TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
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AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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**Congress of the United States**  
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July 22, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Republican Leader  
H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

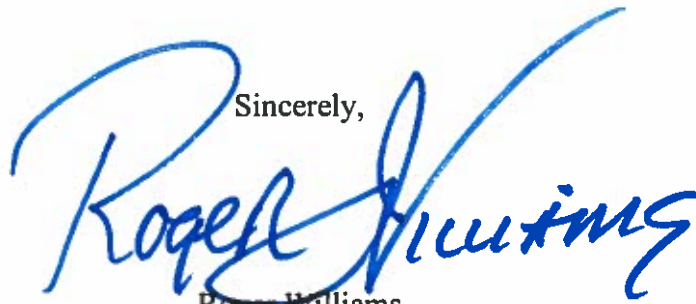
I am pleased that Congress was able to come together in a bipartisan fashion to provide much needed coronavirus (COVID-19) relief for the American people. As we consider the priorities of future COVID-19 legislation, I urge you to include funding to expand high-speed broadband deployment to underserved, rural communities across the country.

In speaking with my constituents of the 25<sup>th</sup> District of Texas, I have consistently heard about the struggles the following rural counties face regarding lack of connectivity: Lampasas, Burnet, Hays, Coryell, Bosque, Somervell, Erath, Johnson, Travis, Hill, and Hamilton. Not only does the lack of quality internet limit a household's ability to access information but makes it harder for the businesses to adapt to the times by only offering limited in-person services. Additional funds to these rural communities will ensure we are able to get the most up-to-date information on the pandemic to the public, and that businesses are aware of the most recent state and federal guidelines to reopen safely.

COVID-19 has highlighted how high-speed internet is necessary for our citizens to acquire quality healthcare, have access to remote work capabilities, and the ability to continue with education throughout this pandemic. My congressional district consists of many rural areas that do not have the same access to the quality internet connectivity as their urban counterparts, and we cannot continue to pick winners and losers. While I am proud of the work we have accomplished to assist Americans throughout COVID-19, we must do more to help close the digital divide.

We must build on past achievements while also providing further investment in broadband deployment. As Congress continues to consider future stimulus packages, I urge you to include the necessary funding to ensure all Americans, especially our rural communities, have access to high speed internet. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Roger Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Roger Williams  
Member of Congress